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ABOVE: Crowds pack in to see the switch-on's festivities

RIGHT: Soap star Mark Charnock

A RECORD 6,000 people turned out to see *Emmerdale* star Mark Charnock switch on Banbury's Christmas lights
● See Page 3



DEATH ON THE ROADS

PART of the M40 was closed for most of Saturday morning after a crash near Banbury killed three dogs and seriously injured a woman.

The accident happened on the northbound carriageway between Junctions 11 and 12 at around 5.30am. A camper van containing 12 dogs and three people was struck by a lorry.

A woman was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, with serious injuries to her back and chest, while two other people were treated at the scene.

Three dogs are thought to have died during the accident, which caused disruption on the road for most of the morning, and another was put down because of its injuries.

All three lanes of the motorway were shut for most of the day while the debris was cleared.

And the motorway had to be closed again on Monday – between Junctions 11 and 10

By Banbury reporters

on Monday after a lorry jackknifed and went through the central reservation, shedding 14 tonnes of paper rolls.

Three lanes of the motorway were closed for most of the morning while recovery took place.

Paramedics treated the driver and passenger at the scene but both escaped serious injuries.

The accidents followed the death of a 72-year-old man, killed in a three-car crash at tea-time on Thursday on the A361 Bloxham Road in Broughton.

The road victim has been named as Keith Anderson, from Deddington.

He died when the Toyota Prius, in which he was a passenger, was involved in a collision with two other cars.

A statement issued by his family said: "Keith was a true gentleman, a wonderful husband, loving father and an exceptional

grandad. His loss has left his wife, Anne, and his family devastated.

"He was a true delight to know and will be sadly missed by his friends from bowling, the rugby touchline, the local community and the many friends he has made throughout his life."

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Woman charged over crossing incident

A 43-YEAR-OLD woman has been charged after a train struck a car on the Sandy Lane railway crossing, near Yarnton, earlier this month.

Heather Bister, of Austin Drive, Banbury, appeared at Banbury Magistrates' Court on Friday.

British Transport Police

confirmed the woman had been charged with endangering safety on the railways without intent.

The charge relates to an incident on the crossing in Yarnton on Tuesday, November 12, at about 4.40pm.

The case has now been adjourned to Oxford Crown

Court on December 6.

Bister was released on conditional bail and told not to drive, not to enter any rail infrastructure and to be accompanied by an adult when leaving her home address.

● **Nightmare of victim's railway crossing death:**
See page 6

Activist is freed from detention

By Tom Burrows

CHIPPING Norton resident and Greenpeace campaigner Phil Ball was released from a Russian prison on Monday.

The father-of-three was granted bail and became the 29th detainee to be released from detention in St Petersburg.

Mr Ball, who was held in Russia for the past two months, was one of 28 activists and two journalists seized from their ship, the Arctic Sunrise, by armed coastguards after some of them tried to scale a Russian-owned offshore oil-drilling platform in the Barents Sea.

He told reporters outside: "I just want to go home and meet the rest of the 30 and move on to the next stage."

His 44-year-old brother, Steve, also from Chipping Norton, said: "It is absolutely brilliant. It means we will be able to talk to him on Skype and see how he is. I can't wait to hear from him."

"But we have not seen any of the bail conditions. I would be amazed and delighted if they were allowed to come back to England."

"They are still liable for five years' hard labour, or seven years in prison, and so it is not over until the fat lady sings."

Charged with piracy and placed in a pre-trial detention centre in Murmansk, the charges against them were later reduced to hooliganism, which carries a potential seven-year jail sentence.

A total of 29 of the "Arctic 30" have now been granted bail from their current detention centre in St Petersburg, with a £38,000 surety for each prisoner paid by Greenpeace.

Australian Colin Russell remains behind bars in Russia for his part in the protest but Greenpeace said lawyers were lodging appeals against his continued detention.



Philip Ball is released on bail from the SIZO 1 detention centre in St. Petersburg

HS2 moves step closer

A BILL paving the way for the controversial £50bn HS2 rail link had its first reading in Parliament on Monday.

The Bill, effectively the planning application for the scheme, will give the Government the power to build and operate the link.

But the project, which would skirt the north Oxfordshire villages of Mixbury and Finnemore, has met opposition from residents, businesses and councils.

Among them is Cherwell district and Oxfordshire county councils, which are part of the 51m Alliance, a group set up by councils along the route to fight the scheme.

The Bill is due to have its second reading in March and, if approved, work could start in 2016/2017 for the line to open in 2026.

Oxfordshire campaigner, Bernie Douglas, chairman of Villages of

Oxfordshire Opposing HS2, said: "On consultation of the environmental statement, there are 36 working days to respond. We have something like 38,000 pages to go through."

"I think it's just another case of the Government trying to avoid genuine scrutiny of the scheme."

Secretary of State for Transport Patrick McLoughlin said it was the most "ambitious and important infrastructure project in the UK since we built the M25 30 years ago".

He added: "The Bill will give us the powers we need to get the railway built and start delivering the extra room on our railways that this country so desperately needs."

"It will also start the process of rebalancing the economy and bringing our great cities closer together."

Scouts brave the cold to raise homeless cash

A BANBURY Scout group raised more than £800 for a town youth homeless charity with a sponsored sleep-out.

Some 20 youngsters from the 1st Shipston Scout Troop braved temperatures of 3C by sleeping in boxes and under tarpaulins in a field.

The challenge raised cash for the Supporting Young People in Housing Need charity.

Charity worker Kim Hopkinson said: "Although we deal with a lot of the 'hidden homeless', the reality is that young people often face the stark decision of sleeping in a dangerous situation or sleeping on the streets."

"The amount the Scouts have raised is amazing. I would encourage more groups to run these sorts of activities."

To donate to the Scouts visit: uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/ScoutsSleepOut

Town turns out for the big seasonal switch-on

The lights fantastic

By Banbury reporter

BRIGHT lights, loud music and a TV soap star launched Christmas in Banbury on Sunday.

The town centre rocked as popular local groups and a Robbie Williams tribute band took to the stage for the annual festive celebration to mark the switching on of the Christmas street lights.

Guest of honour was actor Mark Charnock, who plays Marlon Dingle in ITV's *Emmerdale*.

He was joined on stage for the big switch-on by Luke

Froude, who turned a family tragedy into a desire to help others and was chosen as the town's first Champion of Champions.

The 33-year-old Banbury man has raised more than £50,000 for local good causes. Luke's fundraising efforts began in 2010, in memory of his four-month-old son, Finnley, who died in Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital.

Massive crowds packed into Bridge Street for the switch-on,



as once again the lure of seeing a TV personality in the flesh proved a huge attraction to the Banbury Town Council-organised event.

Three and a half hours of entertainment preceded the switch-on and around 6,000 people of all ages enjoyed an afternoon of top-class, free

music. Tina Wren, chairman of the Christmas lights organising committee, said: "We had a marvellous show and huge crowds of happy people."

"Mark was fantastic. He stayed for an hour after the event, and thrilled many of his fans by signing autographs and posing for photographs."



ABOVE: Actor Mark Charnock meets fans in the crowd

FAR RIGHT: Fireworks light up the festivities

RIGHT: Guests hit the button

LEFT: The Robbie Williams tribute act entertains the crowd



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InBRIEF**Safety videos**

A-LLEVEL pupils from north Oxfordshire have been making videos to warn their peers about the dangers of rural roads. Media students have teamed up with Stratford-upon-Avon-based NFU Mutual to create a series of online videos, aimed at making young drivers think about how they drive on country roads. The videos will be used for the insurance firm's 2014 road safety campaign.



■ Author brings history alive

Lesson in Japanese fighting

ABOVE: Award-winning author Chris Bradford takes on 11-year-old Jacob Robinson, when he visited Sibford School



RIGHT: Chris Bradford with Scarlett Fowler, Darcie O'Dwyer, Charlie Bothwell and Henry Hargreaves

OX63629

By Sophie Scott

interesting.

"He is passionate about his writing and the research he undertakes to write his books."

"His talk was exciting but also safe – even though he had a real sword to demonstrate some moves."

Sibford School librarian Frances King said: "We were delighted that Chris was able to join us. He was an inspiring speaker and a brilliant performer. The pupils loved him."

Jacob Robinson, 11, who took part in the demonstration, said: "Chris was easy to understand, and everyone found his talk very

India Harwood, 11, added: "Chris was amazing. I really liked him being dressed as a Samurai warrior."

Student wins book award

A FORMER Banbury College student has beaten competition from more than 120 people to win a book prize.

Isla Millar, who graduated in June 2013 with a Foundation Degree in Creative Art and Design Practice, was given the Sheffield International Artists Book Prize 2013 award for her piece which was inspired by a historical event in the Northamptonshire village in which she lives.

The Great Fire of Eydon tells of a blaze which swept the the village in 1905, destroying 11 homes.

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Bloxham event raises awareness over the dangers of cyber bullying

TACKLING online bullying was the main focus of schools across Oxfordshire during Anti-Bullying Week.

Activities and events took place to raise awareness of cyber bullying, with film-making and a poster competition.

Pupils were awarded high street gift

vouchers for the best posters promoting this year's message – "positive use of the Internet rather than being held back by cyber-bullying".

There was also a multi-media competition for the best film, leaflet, cartoon or song.

Oxfordshire County Council provided

electronic resource packs, so workshops, training and other activities could be held throughout the week.

The county council's education chief, Melinda Tilley, said: "There is already a lot of good work going on, but we are keen to promote this year's theme and to get

messages out about what people can do to keep themselves safe and ensure they have a positive experience on the Internet."

Last Thursday, youngsters and staff from 18 schools attended the anti-bullying ambassador event at the Warriner School, Bloxham.

Tragic father tells of danger on the roads

By Ben Wilkinson

paramedics, police, and firefighters who deal with road accidents.

Mr Jefferies, from Twyford, said: "It tends to be the part of the talk which has the most impact because my part is the real story.

"I just felt I wanted to do something to save their families from going through what my family has gone through over the last couple of years."

He added: "All the services here do a fantastic job and they did a fantastic job for us as a family."

"I wanted to put something back and just show the children

what can happen."

Last year, two drivers aged 24 or under were killed and 175 injured on the county's roads.

In the same year one passenger was killed and 51 injured in road traffic collisions involving a car driven by someone in that age group.

Acting police sergeant Kelly Hobson, part of Thames Valley Police's road death investigation team, said the show needed to be hard hitting to get the message across.

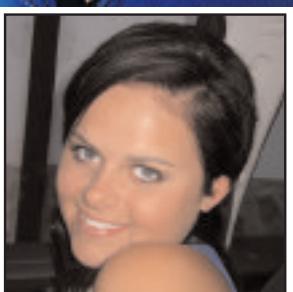
She said: "It needs to be a little hard hitting for them to appreciate how fragile life is and how dangerous cars and driving can be."

Mandy Rigault, a road safety

team leader in Oxfordshire County Council's Fire Service, said: "It is important to educate young adults about road safety and being behind the wheel at the time when they are reaching the age when they can drive.

"Our event delivers important messages directly from people who have been involved in, and affected by, road accidents. I am sure that it will contribute to making Oxfordshire's roads safer."

Mick Clarke, the fire service road safety manager, added: "The Safe Drive Stay Alive production is an excellent tool to help educate young people about the potential dangers of not paying attention to important road safety messages."



ABOVE: Safe Drive Stay Alive's organiser Mandy Rigault

RIGHT: Road victim Olivia Jefferies

THE father of a teenage road victim was among speakers delivering a "hard hitting" safety message to school pupils.

Student Olivia Jefferies, who was known as Livi, died in a car crash at Adderbury in 2011.

The 18-year-old's father, Steve, spoke to sixth form pupils about the accident and how it had impacted his family.

The 63-year-old spoke to the teenagers as part of the emergency services' Safe Drive Stay Alive campaign.

The event, which was staged in front of 4,000 pupils from across the county over the two days, also featured presentations from

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that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Oxford, Banbury & Abingdon areas and Trevor is finding that his approach is a major factor

in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show

how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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InBRIEF**Ex-minister to speak**

FORMER Minister of State for the Environment, Michael Meacher, will speak at a Banbury Labour Party event. The MP for Oldham West and Royton – in the post from 1997 to 2003 – will speak in Adderbury on Saturday at 7.30pm. To book a place, call Mary Evans on 01295 268676 or email mlevansyoung@aol.com

Inquest is told how car stalled as it was crossing rail tracks

FLASHBACK to January 3, and the drama of the crash at the railway level crossing in Sandy Lane, Yarnton



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BEALES
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A WHEELCHAIR-bound pensioner from Banbury died when the car he was travelling in broke down on a level crossing and was struck by a freight train.

A coroner was told of the "nightmare" death of 85-year-old Thomas Pizzey in Sandy Lane, Yarnton, on January 3.

He was in the back of a Renault Kangoo being driven by civil partner Malcolm Kimberley, 78, when the engine cut out on the crossing.

Mr Kimberley – who suffered serious injuries in the accident – tried to restart the car but it was too late and the impact of the train hitting the vehicle threw Mr Pizzey out of his wheelchair and the car and on to the tracks.

The car fault could not be established but the injuries to Mr Pizzey – of Harrowby Road – may have been less severe if his wheelchair had been more securely fastened, the coroner said.

Investigating officer Detective Constable Nicola Wood said: "As the driver accelerated to come across the crossing, the car stalled and the engine stopped."

She told deputy coroner Alison Thompson at County Hall, Oxford, on Wednesday of last week: "He tried to start the car a number of times but with no success."

Stephen McDermott and partner Louise Poulter, stopped nearby in their car and rushed to a "panicking" Mr Kimberley who was "still trying to start the car right up to the time of impact" at 3.37pm.

DC Wood said the driver of the train, which was travelling from Manchester to Southampton, braked and sounded its horn on approach.

She said Mr Kimberley had previously reported to a garage that the car had once failed to start but it passed a March, 2012, MoT.

Network Rail section supervisor Jon Waddy said the level crossing barrier – covering half the entrance

'Nightmare' of victim's railway crossing death

By Oliver Evans

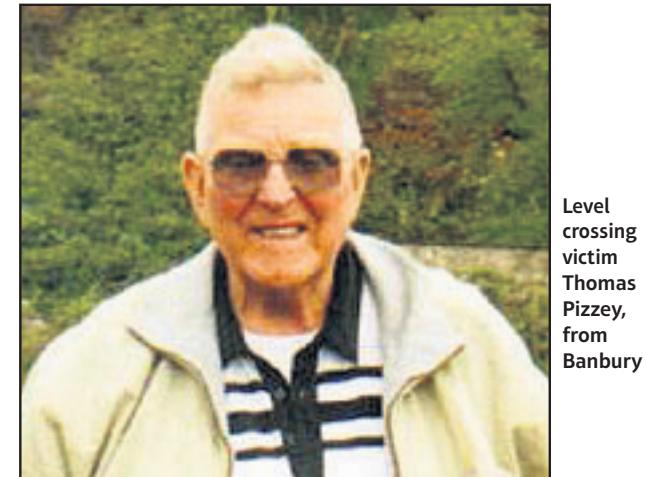
– was automated by track circuits. It is programmed to give a minimum of 27 seconds from the barrier falling to the train passing. Mr Waddy said in this case the time lapse was 45 seconds.

The crossing "worked absolutely correctly", Mr Waddy said, adding: "If somebody had picked up the phone immediately and said 'stop' it may well have still been too late."

Thames Valley Police vehicle examiner Philip Balderstone said the extent of damage to the car meant tests were inconclusive, but the "most probable" reason was a failure of its engine management system.

Mr Pizzey was wearing a seatbelt and the wheelchair winch mechanism was attached, but two other tether points were not, he said, creating "a lot of available movement".

The coroner said it was a "nightmare scenario", adding: "The horror of being there and not being able to start the car does not bear thinking about."



Level crossing victim Thomas Pizzey, from Banbury

Council hands out £1.2m contract to help ease hospitals crisis



Paul Cann, of Age UK Oxfordshire

Move to beat the beds jam

A £1.2m contract has been awarded by social care bosses to try to tackle Oxfordshire's bed-blocking crisis.

Oxfordshire County Council is rolling out a pilot project which will provide home care through a county firm.

The year-long scheme will provide short-term care for OAPs while more long-term care packages are arranged by the council.

The council hopes the move will tackle bed-blocking, where hospital patients are not discharged despite being well enough to leave.

The delays – often caused by a lack of hospital assessment of patients or delays in social care – lead to the "blocking" of vital beds.

Latest NHS figures – based on a snapshot survey – found 166 Oxfordshire patients were in a hospital bed when they were well enough to go home.

By Oliver Evans

The county's figures were the highest in England, though different counties have different-sized hospital authorities.

The council hopes the contract – given to DANA Care Ltd, which has offices in Witney and Oxford – will support 28 to 36 people a week.

The NHS and social services have long battled to tackle the county's bed-blocking problem amid an ageing population with multiple health problems.

In September, it was reported that the council admitted it had "failed" over a scheme in April that sent hospital patients home to wait for social services assessments.

That month the Government handed the NHS and council £10.2m to tackle winter pressures that worsen bed-blocking, including more hospital and community beds and extra nurses and social workers.

DANA managing director John Maloney said the contract would see it take on 30 care workers. The firm was chosen after a tendering process.

He said: "It will enable six or seven people a week to come out of hospital who would otherwise have had to stay."

"This is specifically aimed at getting people out of hospital. Winter is coming up and they are going to need those beds."

A county council spokesman said: "This service was previously piloted in Oxfordshire and it aims to help a person maximise their independence when at home before receiving more permanent support."

Age UK Oxfordshire chief executive Paul Cann said: "Oxfordshire is badly in need of solutions to break through this continuing problem."

"Together with a strengthening of community health services, these are the kind of services that older people need and will welcome."

Cameron counters jibe in Commons

OXFORDSHIRE MP and Prime Minister David Cameron faced questions about his support for children's centres in Oxfordshire in the House of Commons last week.

Labour leader Ed Miliband's first question to Mr Cameron at Prime Minister's Question Time was about his "campaign" to save Chipping Norton children's centre.

Mr Miliband said: "Things are so bad he has even signed a petition to save his local children's centre."

"We all wish him luck in his fight as a local MP."

"Imagine what he could do if he was Prime Minister of the country."

But Mr Cameron claimed only one per cent of children's centres had closed nationally and said his Government was giving councils more money to pay for them.

In Oxfordshire, concerns have been raised that 37 of the county's 44 children's centres could close as part of plans to save £61m.

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■ How signing up for franchise gives business two-year head start

Hoping to make a clean sweep with new career

IF THE WORDS "chimney sweep" conjure up cheesy images of Dick Van Dyke tap-dancing his way through *Mary Poppins*, think again.

Soaring energy prices mean more people are switching to wood-burning stoves to save cash.

And that has boosted demand for sweeps, especially in rural places like Oxfordshire.

Father-of-two Nick Menage hopes to cash in on the trend with his new venture.

The 52-year-old, who lives in Bloxham, recently splashed out £15,000 on buying a franchise with Wilkins Chimney Sweep.

Mr Menage already has plenty of business experience, as he and wife Gillian owned and ran Reflex Health Club in Banbury for 27 years.

After they sold it two years ago, he retrained and began teaching maths – but found it wasn't for him.

He longed to be his own boss again but chose the franchise route this time around.

He said: "I didn't want to spend years setting something up from scratch.

"Franchising allows you to step into a

By Gill Oliver

proven model and skip a couple of years.

"I used to employ ten people but wanted something that just involved a bit of kit and a van."

Under the deal, Wilkins takes ten per cent of Mr Menage's turnover but in

return, he's given help with marketing, accounts and administration.

He has also been fully trained in chimney sweeping.

According to the British Franchise Association, franchises are worth £13.4bn to the UK economy and the sector's grown by 20 per cent in the past five years.

There are almost 1,000 brands that



Nick Menage has switched careers to become a chimney sweep

offer franchise opportunities, ranging from web design, children's dance or music classes, recruitment and dog boarding to care, catering and hospitality.

Buying in costs anything from £5,000 to £500,000, depending on how well-known the brand is and, therefore, how much earning potential it offers.

Subway is the UK's largest franchise and other big brands include McDonald's, Clarks shoes and Thorntons.

Mr Menage added: "I looked at lots of franchises before I decided on this one.

"The smaller ones tend to be oven cleaning or maintenance things that people can do themselves.

"But what they can't do is clean their own chimney.

"When they see a brand, people feel comfortable that they are going to get a proper sweep.

"We are smartly dressed, do a good job and clean up afterwards.

"If I had decided to do this by myself, it would have taken a long time to learn the trade and build the brand. Although I wouldn't have to pay ten per cent, I would have spent a lot of time making mistakes."

InBRIEF

Policy to help the homeless

■ A PLAN to reduce homelessness across Cherwell has been approved by councillors. Cherwell District Council's executive gave the go-ahead to a move to adopt a homelessness prevention scheme to tackle the issue. Measures being proposed include offering advice on budgeting, working with vulnerable people, and educating young people about the risks and alternatives available – such as training and employment. The council will now work with the police and health professionals. Last year, the council received 127 homeless applications, with the majority saying they were evicted by a parent.

Gift thanks

■ BANBURY shoppers donated 139 bags at Castle Quay shopping centre for British Heart Foundation charity shops. The items could bring in an estimated £2,780, the charity said. Centre manager Paul Jackson said: "We are delighted that 139 bags were filled and donated to the Great British Bag-athon by the Banbury community and would like to say a big thank you."



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Musical version of a children's classic

AT the moment, there are many events taking place to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of one of Oxfordshire's most famous authors – C. S. Lewis.

Lewis wrote a large number of books, both scholarly and designed for general readers.

But they pale into insignificance when compared with his *Chronicles of Narnia* series, which began with *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* in 1950 — Narnia sales now top 100 million copies in 47 languages.

And a brand new adaptation of this children's classic is taking shape, ready to be staged at the North Wall Arts Centre, Summertown, Oxford, between December 6 and January 4.

Rehearsals are already under way at Cowley Road Methodist Church.

Director Charlotte Conquest said: "This is the beginning of the story, where four children are being sent from London to Suffolk as evacuees.

"It's a scary time for them, but also full of adventure and hope, as

Giles Woodforde chats to the director of Creation's new Christmas show

they leave the horrors of wartime London behind.

"They'll be playing a game of hide and seek, and they'll be drawn towards a wardrobe, standing in a corner. 'Shall we hide in there?' they wonder. Then something in their subconscious will draw them inside."

Charlotte is directing *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* for Creation Theatre.

It's their Christmas show this year. "It's an interesting new departure for Creation," she said.

"We've certainly used a new adaptation before, but this time we have got a lot of music in the show.

"The music furthers the story all the time, so in some senses you could say it's a musical.

"All our cast are trained singers as well as being actors, so we're working with quite a new animal.

That's been a lot of fun already. But of course we'll still have our usual magical storytelling as well."

Charlotte first encountered C. S. Lewis's classic tale of the four evacuee children who are transported to a mythical Narnia when she was eight or nine.

She said: "I really identified with the character of Lucy, because she has the heart and soul that runs through the story. I found myself looking at wardrobes differently, and thinking: 'I would love to step in there, go to a magical world, and find out more about myself.'

"That's something that happens to all four children. Also, it's wonderful to be carried away, out of the classroom, when you're that age!"

● *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*: North Wall Arts Centre, December 6 to January 4. Box office: 01865 766266



Rehearsing:
Nathan Lubbock
Smith, as Mr
Tumnus, in the
upcoming stage
version of *The
Lion, the Witch
and the Wardrobe*

Band's rapturous return

IT is eight years since Texas last toured, and from the rapturous reception from the capacity audience at the New Theatre, Oxford, it was clear that they have been much missed by their legions of fans.

The recording of their latest album, *The Conversation*, had clearly whetted appetites to bursting point, and the moment they walked on to the stage they received a standing ovation which lasted until the final encore.

Never having seen them perform live before I was simply blown away — I knew that Sharleen Spiteri is a pop goddess but never could I have imagined the sheer energy that she gives out when on stage.

Though the band — Ally McErlaine guitar, Johnny McElhone Bass, Eddie Cambell guitar, Tony McGovern keyboards and drummer Ross McFarlane — are amazing musicians, they seem quite content to let their front woman go out there and wow everyone.

Spiteri never stops dancing, prancing and bouncing around, projecting the emotions in every song at mega levels.

She is so friendly to the crowd that you would think that she knew us all personally — chatting, answering hecklers and cracking jokes.

The songs from the *The Conversation* were received very enthusiastically.

The profoundly moving ballad *Dry Your Eyes* and the dazzling *Detroit City* were great.

There was a maturity to these new songs that really resonates.

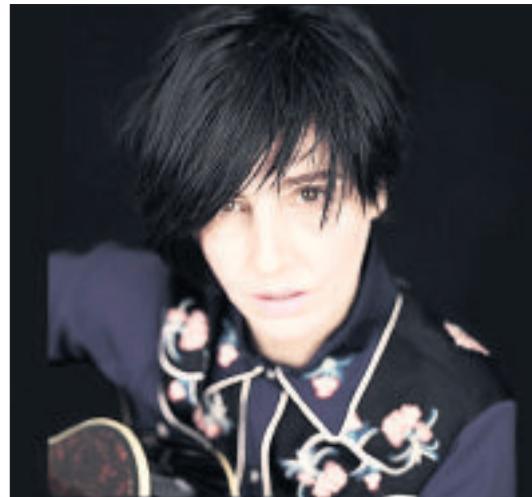
But even though the audience really loved the new work, inevitably when classics such as *I Don't Want a Lover* and *Black Eyed Boy* were unleashed, everyone went

wild with joy and danced like they were 17 again.

The excellent supporting band, Girl Called Johnny, was a reminder of Blondie back in the day. They're a band with a fine future ahead, and it was great when their vocalist, Karen Anne, joined Spiteri in Texas's final encore.

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LOVE FOR LIFE Tactile, loving and fun Melksham lady, 51, simply searching for a gregarious, confident male, for fun, friendship and perhaps more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 153073

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 52, 5'7", grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man out there for me? Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 798804

TO THE FUTURE Flexible, life-loving, optimistic, divorced Abingdon lady, 54, 5'7", non-smoker, wants to meet a feisty, adventurous gentleman, 44-54 for friendship, hopefully leading to committed relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138484

SEE ME SMILE Happy, quiet, caring and reliable Oxford lady, 42, 5'2", simply searching for a tactile, gentle-natured gent, for friendship, lasting happiness and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 154933 or send a text to 80360

LETS GO OUT Caring, honest and reliable Witney female, 36, enjoys keeping fit and nights out at the pub with friends, would like to meet a like-minded gent, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 154933 or send a text to 80360

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LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Thoughtful Oxford female, 42, 5', medium-build, fair-haired, blue-eyes, smoker, likes swimming, holidays, pubs and meals out, seeks a genuine male. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122427

STRIKE FAST Bubbly, blonde, blue-eyed Devizes woman, 43, 5'6", enjoys listening to music, country walks and more, searching for a nice and genuine guy, to share caring times and the future. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 155233 or send a text to 80360

JUST WANT TO BE HAPPY Easygoing, honest and caring Bicester female, 55, would like to meet a tall, genuine kind and loving male, for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 156009 or send a text to 80360

GENUINE PARTNER WANTED Sincere, loyal, Christian Banbury female, 45, searching for a loving, kind-hearted and honest man, for friendship initially and hopefully a romantic relationship in the future. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 154128 or send a text to 80360

DO IT TOGETHER Down-to-earth, retired Bicester lady, 67, enjoys car boot sales, bingo, eating out and generally always up for a laugh, would like to meet a kind, caring gent, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 158321 or send a text to 80360

LET'S BE HAPPY TOGETHER Straight forward, kind and sincere Swindon woman, 67, N/S, likes music and current affairs, would like to meet a male, age 67-77, for a friendly chat and hopefully more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 155949 or send a text to 80360

WALK OF LIFE Self-assured, strong-minded and motivated Bampton girl, 71, just looking to meet a friendly, trustworthy male, for a special and lasting relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 156046 or send a text to 80360

COMPLETE THE PICTURE Attractive, honest Swindon lady, 75, 5'5", loves cinema, theatre, national trust, walks, would like to meet a tall, non-smoking gent, under 70 with a GSOH. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114479

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing Wantage male, 52, own car, works full-time, likes most sports, would like to meet an outgoing female, for good times leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 153164 or send a text to 80360

RELIGHT OUR FIRES Caring, brown-eyed Witney lady, 60, blonde hair, enjoys holidays, cinema, company and much more, searching for a warm-hearted man, to share good times and cuddles. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 143388

BLOSSOM WITH TLC Attractive Abingdon widow, 80, would like to meet a non-smoking, active gent, to enjoy days out and cosy times in with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 139676

NEED THAT SOMEONE SPECIAL Intelligent, attractive, well dressed, 60, widow, enjoys keeping active and swimming, looking for a kind, intelligent, active male, for friendship, possibly more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 151752 or send a text to 80360

THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 61, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147608 or send a text to 80360

SHARING THE GOOD TIMES Fun-loving, affectionate and interesting Swindon female, 50, searching for a fair, upbeat man, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137863

START AFRESH Friendly, kind-hearted, courageous Faringdon woman, 50, 5'7", enjoys entertaining for family and friends, looking for a life-loving, honest male, for friendship and a fresh start in life. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147608 or send a text to 80360

SEEKING THE RIGHT MAN Separated, attractive Witney female, 61, 5'2", curly, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100451

KIND, CARING & HONEST Sincere, honest, well-travelled Oxford male, 25, would like to meet that special woman, to settle down with and share a happy future. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 157991 or send a text to 80360

TELL ME ABOUT YOU Caring, considerate male, 28, enjoys sport, quiet nights in, drinks out, country walks, would like to meet a similar lady for friendship, leading to a lasting romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 157991 or send a text to 80360

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Oxford man, 56, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128286

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Burford widower, 59, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out, countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for companionship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send a text to 80360

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Combatants pumped up for muscular sci-fi sequel

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE (12A, 146 mins) Action/Sci-Fi/Thriller/Romance. Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Elizabeth Banks, Sam Claflin, Woody Harrelson, Jena Malone, Stanley Tucci, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Lynn Cohen, Jeffrey Wright, Amanda Plummer, Willow Shields, Lenny Kravitz, Patrick St Esprit. Director: Francis Lawrence.

Building on the robust foundations of last year's opening salvo, *Catching Fire* is a lean and muscular sequel, which strikes a pleasing balance between brawn and brains.

The final hour of Francis Lawrence's film might be devoted to the 75th annual Hunger Games, a televised battle royale pitting combatants against one another in a booby-trapped arena.

Yet the director and scriptwriters, Michael Arndt and Simon Beaufoy, aren't in a hurry to bludgeon us with bloodshed and savagery.

They invest precious time in developing sinewy emotional bonds between characters and light the fuse on civil unrest that will explode in the concluding chapter, *Mockingjay*, which has been split into two films, a la Harry Potter and *Twilight*. Unlike its predecessor, the second instalment didn't require UK censor cuts to its on-screen violence to secure an 12A certificate.

Yet *Catching Fire* is every bit as unrelentingly grim and brutal, including a wince-inducing scene of flagellation at the hands of a sadistic commander (Patrick St Esprit) and a moment of heartbreaking self-sacrifice.

The film opens with resilient

heroine Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) back in District 12, hunting alongside her beau, Gale Hawthorne (Liam Hemsworth).

They steal a kiss in secret before Katniss returns to the Victors' Village to continue her fake romance with Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson) for the cameras. President Snow (Donald Sutherland) is waiting for her.

"I think we'll make this whole situation a lot simpler by agreeing not to lie to each other," growls Snow, who threatens Gale's life if Katniss steps out of line.

Flanked by booze-sodden mentor Haymitch Abernathy (Woody Harrelson) and sartorially daring escort Effie Trinket (Elizabeth Banks), Katniss and Peeta tour the districts, scenting rebellion in the air.

Meanwhile, Snow recruits a new Games creator, Plutarch Heavensbee (Philip Seymour Hoffman), to stage a special anniversary tournament known as the Quarter Quell, which will pit the darlings of District 12 against former winners in the ultimate duel of death.

In the arena, Katniss and Peeta risk everything once again to keep each other alive, forging alliances with cocksure Finnick Odair (Sam Claflin) and his elderly mentor Mags (Lynn Cohen), quixotic duo Beetee (Jeffrey Wright) and Wiress (Amanda Plummer) and rabble-rousing loose cannon, Johanna Mason (Jena Malone).

Running six minutes longer than the first film, *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* whets the appetite nicely for a devastating final stand. The script turns up the heat on the central love triangle to a brisk simmer, while Lawrence and



Hutcherson expertly navigate their characters' conflicting emotions, leavened by comic relief courtesy of Stanley Tucci as flamboyant TV host Caesar Flickerman.

With an extra 50 million dollars in the sequel's budget, production design doesn't disappoint, not least costume designer Trish Summerville, who pulls out the stops for Effie's wacky wardrobe, including a dress festooned with monarch butterflies.

Most of the violence in the arena takes place off screen but as the cliff-hanger ending of the sequel makes clear, before every storm, there is a lull.

Take a deep breath, while you still can.

A scene from
The Hunger Games Catching Fire, with
Jennifer Lawrence and
Josh Hutcherson

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The Queen's College, (Shulman Auditorium), High Street, Oxford: Vocal Recital – Ashley Francis-Roy. Organised by Eglesfield Musical Society. 1.30pm. Free. 01865 279125.

SUNDAY: New Theatre, George Street, Oxford: Go West, Hue And Cry, The Christians. The '80s are back. £25.50–£29.50. 7.30pm. 0844 847 1585 and 1588.

MONDAY: Magdalen College Chapel, High Street, Oxford:

Phantasm – Moving Meditations. Unusual consort music for four and five viols from England, France and Italy with works by Christopher Tye, Claude Lejeune, Etienne Moulinié, and Tarquinio Merula. Music that mixes flamboyance with heady doses of reverence and spiritual devotion. 8pm. £10, student £5. 07952 223218.

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CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY: Musketeer, Ruscote Avenue, Banbury: Pete McCray. With soul, reggae and ska. Free. 9pm. 01295 269296.

Sun Inn, High Street, Hook Norton: Deano Baigent offers classic rock. Free. 9pm. 01608 737570.

The Gardiners Arms, 93 Medcroft Road, Tackley: Laurence Live. Great fun pop tunes from Soul, Motown and right up to current day. 9pm. 01869 331767.

The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury: Road To BodFest '14. A fundraiser event. From 7.30pm. Kicking off the evening will be four-piece noise merchants X-1 who tore up the BodFest '13 main stage with their blistering set of fast-paced punk anthems. Second up will be gothic-punk trio Mary BendyToy fresh from their

recent Night Circus show in Oxford. Tiger Mendoza played an acoustic set at BodFest '13, but are returning to Banbury with their full electronic set-up and to debut tracks from their forthcoming EP *Monsters & Miracles*. The event headliners are seven-piece band Mundane Sands melding Americana with English Folk which is all held together with a bit of punk attitude. 7.30pm. £5, tickets the Arts Centre box office or at the door. 01295 279002.

SATURDAY: General Foods Sports and Social Club, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury: Banbury Soul Club. Celebrating a tenth anniversary. 8pm-1am. All music played on original vinyl records. Guest DJs on the Night – Sean Chapman and Nige Brown. Plus Club Residents Charlie Mc, Steve Milsom and Tom Howard. £5 at the door. 07528 285977 and

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Banbury held at home



Anderson Pinto holds it up

OX63656

BANBURY United kept their third successive clean sheet as they drew with Poole Town in the Premier Division of the Calor League, but had to work hard, with the visitors dominating the second half.

United began the game well and were unfortunate not to take the lead 15 minutes when Albi Skendi struck a superb shot from 25 yards which rattled a post.

Poole responded well, though, and five minutes later Marvin Brooks was put through on goal by Steve Devlin, only for his shot to go inches wide.

As the half drew to a conclusion Banbury's Dominic Lawless had an excellent chance from ten yards, but skewed his shot wide.

On 48 minutes Carl Preston's shot looked destined for the back of the net, only for the Poole man to be denied by an excellent save from Leigh Bedwell.

The longer the half went on the more dominant the visitors became.

Banbury United	0
Poole Town	0

Will Sprech somehow managed to put the ball over from close-in when it looked easier to score.

United could have snatched a winner in the final minute when a

Scott Bridges corner from the right fell to Kynan Issac on the edge of the penalty area, only for the shot to go just a foot over the bar.

Banbury Utd: Bedwell, Cray, Mbamarah, Pinto (Simpson 68), Blossom, Ryan, Lawless (Morgan 87), Martin, Skendi, Isaac, Talabi (Bridges 33). Sub not used: McNulty. Attendance: 317.



Banbury United's Adeyinka Talabi attacks the Poole defence

STARS with Claire Petulengro



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ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19

As Mercury encourages some of the signs to break up, it helps others to make up, but it still leaves you feeling more vulnerable than before. You'll be asking questions about the past, present and future as you try to work out what and who you want. Make sure the home looks good. You're going to want to impress someone who is coming to see you. Ring now to reveal a liar in your circle.

0906 585 4360

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

You're secretly pleased that you're not having to deal with a difficult family member who seems to have placed a very dramatic obstacle between both of you. Your attitude in the workplace can make all the difference between you being offered a step up or down the career ladder this month, so think before you speak please. Give me a call to hear which friend could be much, much more.

0906 585 4366

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Forced changes in your career may make you feel as if you have been treated with disrespect but if you can tread water for a few days then you'll soon learn that you will benefit greatly from how things pan out. Helpful transits at the end of the week ensure you end up smelling of roses. Listening to younger faces. Communicating with them reveals much. Ring now so I can explain.

0906 585 4361

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Love and relationships come under the spotlight and many of your sign may actually decide they want some more time. Not because you don't care for those close to you, but because you've done a lot of changing recently and you're working out what you need to make you happy, not just how you can make close ones happy too. Ring now so I can support you in this.

0906 585 4367

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Finding the funds you need for your career could be proving problematic. By the end of this week you'll have given up money you'd hoped you could keep. Is it worth it? Yes it is Gemini and offers you get from Wednesday onwards will make you wish that you'd done it years ago. Give me a call to hear which sign you can trust with 'that' secret.

0906 585 4362

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Your ruling planet Jupiter brings out your more experimental side and you're willing to accept changes now you've fought against in the past. You're not changing, you're just allowing those close to you to do so. Don't make promises to family you know you have no intention of honouring or you could end up breaking down all forms of communication. Ring now for a glimpse of your future.

0906 585 4368

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 20

You're so confused that your feelings are changing by the day. What should you do then? Cancer? Why, nothing is the answer, until you give yourself time to breath again. You've been through a lot and it's time to accept the help that close ones are tiring of trying to offer to you. Ring now to hear why I'm so excited about the travel which your stars will soon offer.

0906 585 4363

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

You have the urge to learn and you're not worried if others think you're taking a step back because you know you're going in a better direction. Friendships continue bring luck and interest to your current set up. It's even worth putting your own money into travel. It can prove you're not just playing at your job anymore. Ring now to hear whose jealousy is becoming a problem.

0906 585 4369

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Don't even think about throwing good money after bad just because you're trying to save face. You've taken recent events far too much to heart and you would be better putting your time and energy into the future than worrying over all that's occurred in the past. Someone who wasn't free becomes available, much to your surprise. Ring now to hear which sign is worth turning your world around for.

0906 585 4364

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

There is a really lucky feel to your stars this week which can see you getting away with things you'd usually get pulled up on. New faces or visitors who come your way bring news which will change the way you view what is and isn't acceptable to your family. Double check all financial transactions midweek. Make sure you're getting the fair deal you were at first offered.

0906 585 4370

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Try not to get too involved in friends' disputes or you could end up being the one left out in the cold when they've made up. Your ruling planet Mercury gives you the energy to take on more work and you can use it to replenish those ever dwindling supplies. Property deals go well now and you've managed to regain the respect you lost from a close one. Ring now so I can tell you more.

0906 585 4365

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20

Tension in your inner circle can only be smoothed over once you've laid all your cards on the table and admitted what you're really trying to achieve with your recent words and actions. Mars makes you say what you're thinking but you may want to take these words back later, so try not to get yourself into too many compromising situations. Ring now to hear how your home sector is dramatically happier this month.

0906 585 4371

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CHRISTENING Robe for baby, white with lace over skirt, good clean as new condition £20 ono. 01295 261839	HINARI Bubble foot spa with rollers, new, unused original box with instruction booklet £15. 077519 04431	FOLDING Snooker table and pool table, High-Pro, 6ft £35. 077866 50248
Bedrooms & Bedding	Visiq Facial sauna with inhaler, new, unused in original box with instruction booklet and attachments £8. 077519 04431	MULTI Games table (8 games) new, excellent Christmas present, was £250 sell for £50. 077866 50248
Bicycles & Accessories	Heating & Fireplaces	Articles Wanted
LADIES Marin bicycle £80. 01295 253797	5FT 15" extending fire fender £30 01295 269110	OLD FASHIONED Pictures, Coins & Bank Notes English or Foreign and Costume Jewellery - Instant Cash Paid. Please Tel: 01295 254704
Carpets & Flooring	FINSBURY Full depth gas fire £80. 01295 275904	CASH PAID for China, Pictures, Silver, Coins, Coloured Glass & Clocks etc Call Anytime 07832 219822
DIY Equipment	FIRE Fender 5' to 6' x 15" £30. 01295 269110	CASH PAID for Books, Postcards, Stamps, Programmes etc Call Anytime 07832 219822
SCAFFOLD TOWERS £190	Mens Clothing	To advertise your articles for sale or general services
Lightweight galvanised 6x4ft base x16ft high for all building work/DIY. 07760463320	MISCELLANEOUS Sales	Telephone: 01865 420420 reception@nqo.com
Domestic Appliances	WORKTOP 240cm x 62cm golden oak colour, could deliver locally £50 01295 269358	FROM ONLY £10.00 inc VAT
DYSON DC33 Animal £50 ono. 01295 256975	HOW can you PAY? 01295 256111	FOR 3 INSERTIONS 5x1 DISPLAY BOX AND ONLINE FOR ONE WEEK.
Mobility	Are you looking for a stair lift straight or curved, mobility scooter, wheelchair or powered wheelchair. We can also service and repair all the above mobility equipment.	Telephone 01865 420420 or email reception@nqo.com
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TEAK G plan display unit with 3 drawers W32" D18" H78" buyer collects £20, also G plan dining table and 6 chairs, buyer collects £50 01865 454419	Recare	LAPTOP & COMPUTER Server, Set up, Repairs, Data Recovery, Internet, Network, Virus, Home / Office Computer Problems. 7 days services from £35.00 No Fix No Fee, FREE QUOTE Qualified & Experienced Your Local IT Services 01295 236292
11 PROPERTY	Are you looking for a stair lift straight or curved, mobility scooter, wheelchair or powered wheelchair. We can also service and repair all the above mobility equipment.	To advertise your Services Telephone: 01865 420420

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Night Shift Electrical/Electronic Maintenance Engineer Required

Salary circa £27 – £30k depending upon experience

Newsquest Oxfordshire Printing Services require an additional, experienced, Electrical/Electronic Engineer to take a hands on approach and responsibility in both maintaining and performing preventative maintenance at our production facility in Osney Mead, Oxford.

We are looking for a team player who is a logical thinker with a positive and flexible approach, with the ability to work on their own initiative whilst under pressure.

The Company runs a 24 hour operation at the present time and the vacancy is for a: 36hr night shift, however, there may be a need to vary the shift pattern to meet changing production needs from time to time.

Ideally you will be:

- A competent Electrician with a formal qualification and experience.
- Experienced in working with ac/dc control systems & panels with the skill of fault finding on drive systems.
- Having a basic know-how in Ethernet-Communication with process-controllers, field-bus-systems (e.g. Interbus), modern instruments and control systems.
- Experienced working in an industrial environment as an Electrical/ Electronic/Mechanical maintenance engineer on industrial machinery and troubleshooting
- IT literate including hardware, software and networking with knowledge of PLC S7, Allen Bradley, Omron and Muller Martini; and troubleshooting.
- Having at least 2 years practical experience including: fault finding, knowledge of DC/AC motors, converters, encoders, fibre optic system, panel and motor wiring.
- Ability to demonstrate an excellent electrical knowledge with a basic knowledge in lighting systems plus mechanical knowledge and experience and able to carry out preventive maintenance

Practical experience of a modern plant installation with a BMS system would also be an asset, and a reasonable level of fitness is required to fulfil the duties of this position.

There will be occasions where some mechanical engineering and the need to 'get your hands dirty' will be required.

Other Benefits include:

- 6.6 weeks annual holiday inclusive of Bank Holidays
- Staff restaurant
- Stakeholder Pension Scheme
- Free car parking.

If you are interested in becoming a key player in this facility please send your CV and a covering letter to:

Geoff Harvey, Printing Services Manager, Newsquest Oxford & Wilts, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EJ

Closing date for applications is December 6 2013.

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The Telephone Sales Executive will be receiving incoming calls from our customers, taking advertisement bookings over the phone or in person.

A very high standard of customer care is essential, ensuring accuracy and attention to detail, in every aspect of your work. You will be a great communicator and creative, above all enthusiastic and motivated to succeed.

THE PACKAGE:

In return you will be rewarded with a competitive salary and attractive monthly bonus, (on achievement of targets).

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**MESSAGE
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Clio adds touch of motor magic

By David Duffy

MY first 50 miles at the wheel of Renault's fourth-generation Clio had a positively Harry Potter quality about them.

When I set off, the five-door hatchback assured me I could travel 605 miles before I needed to fill up. Fifty miles later that figure had spookily risen to 667 miles.

I like to think I am a reasonably economical driver, but this was verging on the ridiculous. It came almost as a relief when the distance-to-empty read-out eventually began to fall.

Economy is clearly a huge focus for modern hatchbacks, but the slimmed-down, fourth-generation Clio manages this with a stylish smile on its face.

The first Renault styled by the firm's new design chief Laurens Van Den Acker is sleek and curvaceous with the low, sporty profile of a coupé, and a million miles from those chubbier predecessors that are now so beloved of first-time drivers.

The new Clio is wider, longer and lower with an extended wheelbase, yet is, on average, about 100kg lighter than the previous model.

The stylish exterior cloaks a massively improved upmarket interior, which is packed with high quality, tactile materials and exudes a properly premium feel.

Campervannews

Top-quality newcomer scores surprise win

Which Motorhome, the UK's number one magazine for motorhome testing, has announced that the Livingstone from Rolling Homes is the winner of its biggest group test of 11 VW campervans.

Campervans tested were the HymerCar Cape Town, the first Hymer on a VW, plus 10 UK-made campers, all on the VW T5 in either short or long-wheelbase format; these were the Autohaus Quinte – with a high-top and unique rear lounge layout, Auto-Sleeper Topaz – a long-established model from the UK's oldest

The upgraded looks are matched by a step up in ride and handling, as the Clio, which is built in plants in France and Turkey, has more responsive steering and a rigid chassis.

They combine to improve agility at low speed and deliver greater precision and straight-line stability, while also giving a sharper response when cornering.

The Clio packs in plenty of standard equipment, with all models fitted with front, side and curtain airbags, electric front windows and door mirrors, Bluetooth radio with USB port and jack socket, electronic stability control, traction control, a folding front passenger seat, hill start assist and both keyless entry and ignition.

Move up to the test model, the Dynamique MediaNav grade, which is expected to be the best-seller in the UK, and the key feature is the

Auto facts

Model: Renault Clio Dynamique MediaNav dCi 90
Price: £15,295
Insurance group: 13E (1-50)
Fuel consumption (Combined): 83.1mpg
Top speed: 112mph
Length: 406.2cm/160in
Width: 144.8cm/57in
Luggage capacity: 10.6 cu ft
Fuel tank capacity: Nine gallons/45l
CO₂ emissions: 90g/km
Warranty: 4 years/100,000 miles



FUEL EFFICIENT: The diesel Clio can potentially top 80mpg

new tablet-style integrated multimedia system controlled by a seven-inch touchscreen with colour satellite navigation.

"Big car" options available for the range include a panoramic fixed glass sunroof, rear parking camera and technology that gives the car access to downloadable apps.

The test car's engine, the 'eco' version of the 90 horsepower, 1.5-litre turbodiesel, complete with a start and stop system, holds out the prospect of topping 80mpg.

While that might never be truly achievable in day-to-day driving, this is without doubt a superbly economical, stylish, practical car with more than a little dusting of magic.

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Wheelsanddeals

BRITISH sports car maker Caterham has announced a new lower-priced version of its long-running Seven model. Dubbed the Seven 160, the new model starts at £14,995 in component form or £17,995 fully built. Under the bonnet there is a turbocharged 660cc Suzuki engine and although this only offers up a modest 80bhp, that's still enough to power the lightweight Seven from 0-60mph in 6.5 seconds. Production starts in January with the first deliveries due in the spring.

AUDI is the UK's most reliable manufacturer according to the annual FN50 survey, which this year gauged the opinion of over 600,000 company car drivers served by the nation's most prominent leasing companies. The FN50 survey, commissioned annually by the specialist fleet title Fleet News, is the nation's largest poll of vehicle reliability and questions participants from the top 50 leasing companies.

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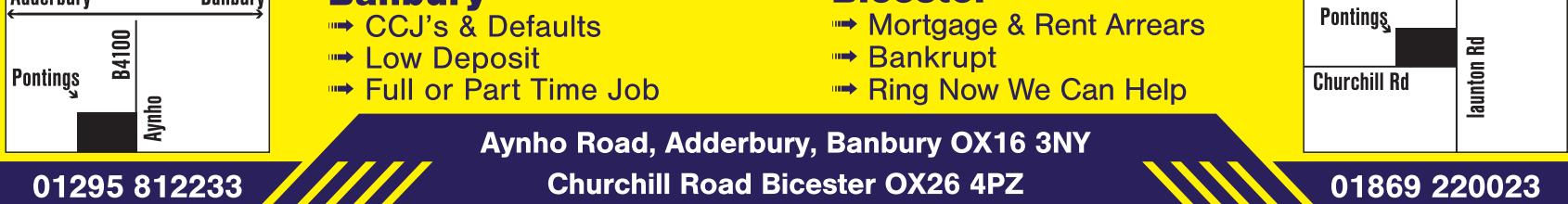
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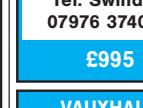


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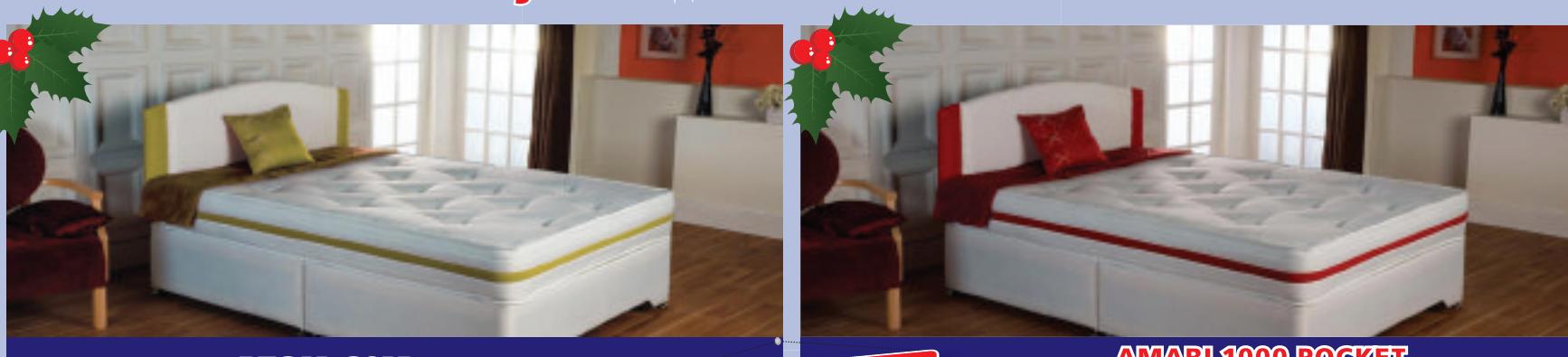
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